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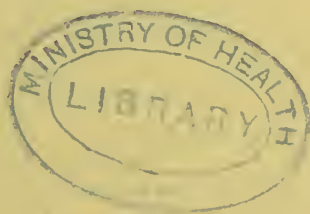
EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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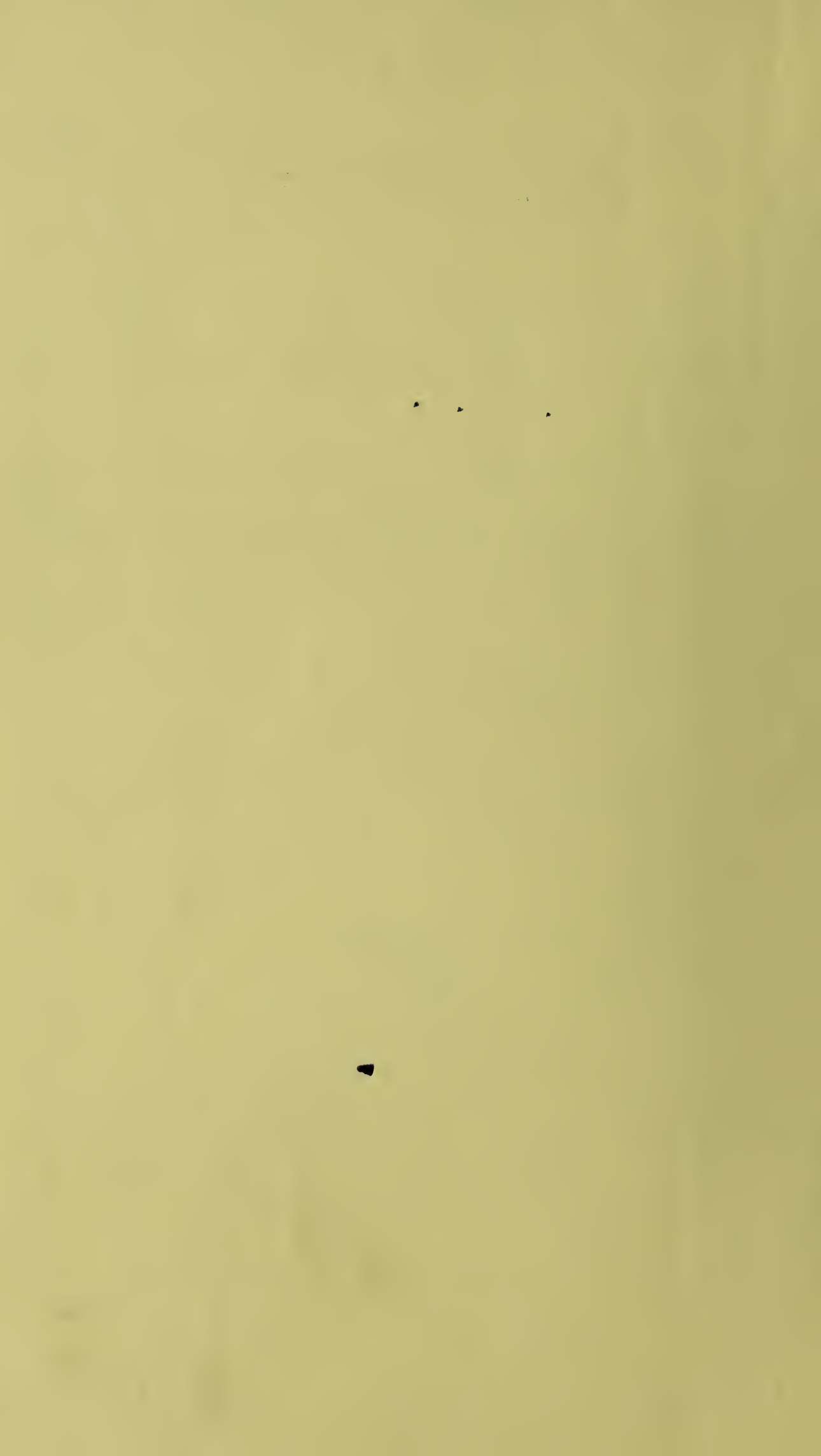
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1952

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P.H. DEPT.
EXMOUTH.



I N D E X.

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EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Templetown Lodge,
Esplanade,
EXMOUTH.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

The general health of the district has remained satisfactory and although the total number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases (146) was considerably lower than for the previous year (569) there was a rather sharp rise in the incidence of Scarlet Fever and Dysentery. The latter disease which was fairly general throughout the country, does impress on one the ease with which intestinal disease can spread if great care and attention is not paid to matters of personal hygiene.

The most serious infectious disease now is that of Tuberculosis and I have enlarged somewhat on this matter in the relevant section of the report.

In the district the standardised birth rate was slightly higher than that for 1951 but was a little below that for England & Wales, whilst the standardised death rate of 10.5 was not only lower than that for the previous year but was lower than that for the country as a whole.

The average age at death of males (70.3) continued to be above that for England & Wales (65.84) and that for females approximately the same as that for the whole country.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Senior Sanitary Inspector, the Engineer & Surveyor and the Housing Officer for the information contained in this report dealing with their appropriate sections, and to thank all members of the staff for the loyal support and conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties.

Finally, I should like to express my appreciation of the help, co-operation, and support which has been given to me by all members of the Council during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

L. C. Anderson

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health.

L.G. ANDERSON M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

MR. E.A.C. LONG, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Additional Sanitary Inspector,

MR. D.R. REDGWELL, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Engineer, Surveyor, and Water Engineer,

MR. R.J. HUMPHREYS, M.I., Mun.E., M.R.San.I.,

Deputy Surveyor.

MR. W.J. WHITSED.

Housing Officer.

MRS. F.A. ELLETT.

Clerk to Medical Officer of Health & Sanitary Inspector.

MRS. S.H. MILLER.

(Commenced Duties 7th July, 1952).

1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	5,295
Resident Population Mid Year 1952	
as estimated by the Registrar General..	17,160
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1952) ...	5,571
Rateable value (end of 1952)	£189,085
Product of a penny rate (March 1952)..	£735

2. VITAL STATISTICS.(a) Live Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	109	111	220
Illegitimate	3	9	12
Total	112	120	232

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population...	13.5
Standardised live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population...	14.2
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population England & Wales ...	15.3

(b) Still births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	7	2	9
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	7	2	9

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live births... ..	38.5
Still birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population...	0.52
Still birth rate per 1,000 civilian population England & Wales..	0.35

(c) Deaths.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	123	153	276	
Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population				16.2
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident ..				
			population	10.5
Death rate per 1,000 civilian population England & Wales..				11.3
Death from puerperal causes	Nil

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5. STILL BIRTHS.

(Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population).

The number of still births which occurred during 1952, viz 9, was 5 more than in the previous year and the still birth rate of 0.52 was above that for England & Wales as a whole (0.35). The subjoined table shows the still birth rate for the last 10 years:-

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Exmouth	0.59	0.65	0.57	0.31	0.55	0.29	0.24	0.47	0.23	0.52
England & Wales	0.51	0.50	0.46	0.53	0.50	0.42	0.39	0.37	0.36	0.35

6. DEATHS.

During 1952, 276 persons normally resident in the urban district died (123 males, 153 females) which represents a corrected death rate of 16.2, but when allowance for age and sex distribution has been made represents a "standardised" death rate of 10.5. This rate is lower than that for 1951 and is also slightly below that for England & Wales as a whole (11.3). The following table shows the corrected and standardised death rates for Exmouth for the last 10 years:-

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Corrected	19.5	18.3	18.8	19.8	18.0	15.0	16.8	16.8	19.5	16.2
Standardised	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.2	11.2	12.6	10.5
England & Wales	12.1	11.6	11.4	11.5	12.0	10.8	11.7	11.6	12.5	11.3

(b) Age at death.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Males									70	70.3
Females									76	70.6
Both Sexes	70	70	72	72	73	69.8	69.8	71.1	73.2	70.7
England (M & Wales (F)									66.49	65.84
									71.22	70.88

+ Expectation of Life from " Provisional Statistics for England & Wales for 1952".

It may be noted here that 51 years ago in 1901 the expectation of life for a male child was 48.53 years and a female child 52.38 years.

(b) Causes of death.

The following table shows the causes of death (data supplied by the Registrar General).

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis			
Respiratory	2	2	4
Other Forms	1	-	1
Acute poliomyelitis	1	-	1
Cancer			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1	3
" " lung, bronchus	2	2	4
" " breast	1	7	8
" " uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	20	11	31
Diabetes	4	-	4
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system (e.g., cerebral haemorrhage)	18	15	33
Coronary disease, angina	13	20	33
Hypertensions with heart disease (high blood pressure)	1	2	3
Other heart disease	24	41	65
Other circulatory disease	3	6	9
Pneumonia	5	3	8
Bronchitis	4	6	10
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis & nephrosis	-	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	22	31
Motor vehicle accidents	3	-	3
All other accidents	1	5	6
Suicide	-	2	2
All causes	123	153	276

The most prevalent cause of death during 1952 was that of heart disease 110 cases (40.0 total deaths). Cancer was the cause in 48 cases (17.8 total deaths), and intra cranial vascular lesions such as cerebral haemorrhage and thrombosis was responsible for 33 deaths (11.9 of total deaths).

Deaths due to Motor Accidents.

The following details refer to two of the motor accidents which occurred during the year:-

1. Male 73 - Shock due to severe injury to the head and compound fracture of left leg accidentally sustained when knocked down by a motor car in Exmouth.
2. Male 57 - Fracture of the skull and multiple injuries accidentally sustained by a collision with a Devon General Bus in Rolle Street, Exmouth.

Deaths due to Other Accidents.

1. Female 60 Barbiturate poisoning self administered and there is not sufficient evidence as to whether the administration was with a view to suicide or otherwise.
2. Female 9 wks Asphyxia due to suffocation in a peramulator.
3. Female 74 Heart failure aggravated by a fracture of the left femur due to a simple fall.
4. Male 92 Fractured neck of femur and cerebral thrombosis.
5. Female 83 Fractured femur and myocardial degeneration.

Deaths by Suicide.

1. Female 69 Barbiturate poisoning.
2. Female 64 Overdose of Barbiturate drug, self administered.

The following table shows the incidence of death at various age groups (from returns supplied by the local Registrar of Births & Deaths).

Age Group	Males	Females	Total	Percentage
Under 1 year	4	2	6	2.2
1 and under 2 years	1	-	1	.36
2 +	1	-	1	.36
5 +	-	-	-	-
10 +	-	1	1	.36
20 +	1	3	4	1.45
30 +	-	1	1	.36
40 +	2	7	9	3.3
50 +	13	5	18	6.6
60 +	18	33	51	18.7
70 +	47	46	93	34.1
80 +	28	46	74	27.1
90 +	7	7	14	5.1
100 +	-	-	-	-
All Ages	122	151	273	

7. INFANT MORTALITY.

Six infants, 4 males and 2 females under the age of 1 year died during 1952. This represents an infant mortality rate of 26.0 which is, I am pleased to state, below that for England & Wales as a whole 27.6

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

The causes of death of these infants were as follows:-

Sex	Age	Causes of Death
F	2 hrs	Prematurity. 26 weeks pregnancy.
M	2 hrs	Multiple congenital deformities
M	2 days	Intra-cranial haemorrhage. Tentorial tear.
M	1 mth	Broncho-Pneumonia
F	9 wks	Asphyxia due to suffocation in a perambulator.
M	8 mths	Congenital heart disease

8. DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

	Males	Females	Total
Measles	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Diarrhoea	-	-	-

9. The number of deaths from Cancer decreased from 50 in 1951 to 48 in 1952 but in relation to the total number of deaths the rate per cent increased from 15.0 in 1951 to 17.4 in 1952.

The parts of the body affected are given in the following table:-

Site,	Males	Females	Total
Stomach	2	1	3
Lung & Bronchus	2	2	4
Breast	1	7	8
Uterus	-	2	2
All other sites	20	11	31
Total	25	23	48

The incidence of deaths from Cancer during the last 10 years as follows:-

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
No: of cases	54	39	40	63	40	45	40	51	50	48
Percentage Total No: of deaths.	18.3	18.7	18.7	21.0	18.5	17.4	14.1	17.8	15.0	17.5
Rate per 1000 resident population.	3.58	2.50	2.55	4.56	2.43	2.65	2.37	2.98	2.92	2.8

10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During 1952, 146 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified which is 423 less than in the previous year. The greatest increase in any particular disease will be seen to be in the case of dysentery of which there were 49 cases.

(a) Dysentery.

The organism causing the dysentery was that of *Shigella sonnei* which produced a disease of a mild nature. Each case was closely followed up and in all 335 visits were made by the Additional Sanitary Inspector. 455 samples of faeces were taken and sent to the Laboratory for analysis, of these 133 were positive and 322 negative.

I should like to emphasize here that the conscientious way in which Mr. Redgwell, the Additional Sanitary Inspector, investigated all these cases was in great part responsible for the control of the spread of the disease amongst the general population.

(b) Para-typhoid B. fever.

This case, a schoolgirl of 13 years of age, arrived at Exmouth on holiday from Peterborough on the 23rd August, 1952. On the 3rd September she complained of loss of appetite, general aching pains in the limbs, vague abdominal pains and headache. Her evening temperature was 102°F and she was toxic. There was no vomiting and no diarrhoea. A provisional diagnosis of para-typhoid B fever was made and she was admitted to Whipton Isolation Hospital where the diagnosis was later confirmed by serological reaction. She was treated with chloramphenicol and made a rapid recovery.

(c) Polio-myelitis.

The one case of polio-myelitis which occurred on 13th September, 1953 was of a most severe and acute type. The patient, a male of 28 years of age, developed paralysis of both legs and the left arm; he died in the Isolation Hospital Whipton shortly after admission.

(d) The seasonal incidence of Measles in Exmouth and England & Wales as a whole was as follows:-

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	Jun	Jly	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Exmouth	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	1	-	1	-
	-			-			12			1		
England & Wales	65,299			79,853			69,289			175,064		

- (e) Diphtheria - For the 6th consecutive year there has been no case of Diphtheria in Exmouth.

Tabular Statements of Infectious Diseases.

- (f) The incidence during 1952 of the various notifiable infectious diseases is tabulated herewith.

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Measles	13	-	-
Whooping Cough	28	-	-
Acute Polio-myelitis Encephalitis (Infantile- Paralysis)	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	51	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-
Ac. Primary Pneumonia	-	-	-
Para-typhoid 'B'	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Dysentery	49	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
TOTAL	146	1	1

- (g) The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases grouped according to age:-

	Under 1 Yr	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	20+	35+	45+	65+	Total
Measles	-	3	-	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	13
Whooping- Cough	2	2	4	2	2	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	28
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	3	2	42	2	-	-	-	-	-	51
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para-typhoid 'B'	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Dysentery	1	4	6	3	3	14	2	-	8	3	4	1	49
Ac. Polio- myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
All causes	3	9	12	8	9	78	6	-	11	3	4	3	146

(h) Table showing the incidence (numbers notified) of various infectious diseases during the last 10 years.

Disease	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Measles	40	148	233	11	127	135	42	6	533	13
Whooping Cough	39	59	43	53	40	22	40	140	19	28
Scarlet Fever	7	25	6	13	2	5	19	11	12	51
Diphtheria	2	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	2	-	2	2	1	1	-	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	49
Pneumonia	11	3	5	4	2	-	4	7	-	-
Erysipelas	4	4	4	-	1	1	1	1	2	1
Ac. Polio-myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

11. TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1952, 16 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified (8 males and 8 females).

The age distribution of new cases, localisation of the disease and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1952, were as follows:-

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
1 -								
5 -	1							
15 -	3	2						
25 -	3	4		1		2		
35 -							1	
45 -		1	1					
55 -					1			
65 -					1			
All Ages	7	7	1	1	2	2	1	-
	14		2		4		1	
	16				5			

The number of cases still on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year were:-

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	56	46	102
Non-Pulmonary	12	19	31
Total	68	65	133

On receipt of a notification of Tuberculosis the housing conditions, milk supply etc., are investigated in collaboration with the County Tuberculosis Officer and where necessary appropriate recommendation made to the Housing Committee.

The incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during 1943 - 1952 inclusive is given in the following table.

		1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
PULMONARY	M	10	7	5	8	11	4	5	7	5	7
	F	8	5	4	4	7	4	5	12	5	7
NON-PULMONARY	M	4	1	-	1	1	3	2	2	-	1
	F	3	3	2	-	4	1	-	3	5	1
TOTAL		25	16	11	13	23	12	12	24	15	16

It will be appreciated that Tuberculosis now remains the most serious infectious disease and much ill health, misery and death still results from this preventable disease.

Year	Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis		Tuberculosis Pulmonary		Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary	
	No. of cases	Deaths	No of cases notified during year	Deaths	No. of cases	Deaths
1947	175	1	18	9	5	2
1948	167	1	8	7	4	2
1949	108	2	10	7	2	-
1950	166	-	19	5	5	-
1951	569	-	10	1	5	-
1952	146	1	14	4	2	1
Total	1,331	5	79	26	23	5

It will be seen from the table that during the last six years of 1,331 cases of infectious diseases other than Tuberculosis only five died whilst of the 102 cases of Tuberculosis (all types) 23 died. In other words during that period over five times as many persons died from Tuberculosis than died from all the other infectious diseases added together.

A study of the following table is of interest:-

All forms of Tuberculosis (Rates per 1,000 estimated resident population).		
Year	Cases notified	Death rate
1904	?	1.08
1910	?	1.17
1912	1.40	0.99
1920	2.24	1.50
1930	1.07	0.68
1938	0.98	0.39
1952	0.93	0.29

It shows clearly that in the Exmouth Urban District, the incidence of cases notified has not fallen greatly (excluding the immediate post 1914-1918 war period) whereas the death rate has dropped considerably.

This reduction in death rate is undoubtedly due largely to the public becoming more enlightened on the importance of early recognition and treatment of the disease and the modern technique of mass miniature radiography will make it even more possible for such early diagnosis to be made.

During April the Mass Radiography Unit of the South West Regional Hospital Board visited Exmouth and 764 males and 874 females (total 1638) were x-rayed. Of these 40 were recalled for a large film to be taken and one male and four females total five, were found to be tuberculous (3.3 per 1,000 x-rayed).

It is important of stress on the public the advisability of being x-rayed each time the unit comes to the town even though they have been x-rayed previously.

With regard to tuberculosis of bovine origin (glands, abdominal, bone and joints etc.,) when the bovine tuberculosis eradication scheme is complete and the legislation making it illegal to sell cow's milk unless it is either pasteurized, sterilized or from tuberculin attested herds in specified areas, the number of such cases should fall to very low proportions.

12. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

The Health Service provided by the Local Health Authority (Devon County Council) under Part II and III of the Act applicable to your district are briefly set out herewith.

PART II(a) HOSPITAL FACILITIES.(i) General.

The urban district is well served by the Exmouth Cottage Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth ('Phone Exmouth 4381) where there is accommodation for:-

Male:	10 beds
Female:	16 beds
Children :	5 beds, 4 cots.
Private Wards:	8.

In addition to the above, use is made of:-

1. Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East ('Phone 2261)
320 beds.
2. Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Buckerell Bore, Exeter.
('Phone 54217) 115 beds.
3. West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter ('Phone
3183) 62 beds.

The plastic surgery centre for Devon is held at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital on the 2nd Thursday in each month from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30. Mr. Fitz-Gibbons and Mr. Bodenham of the S.W. Regional Hospital Board attend.

(ii) Maternity.

1. Foltime Nursing Home - 10 beds.
2. Redhills House, St. Thomas, Exeter.
3. Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital for complicated or difficult cases.

(iii) Isolation.

Cases of Infectious Diseases are admitted to Exeter City Isolation Hospital, Whipton ('Phone Exeter 67158) as in previous years.

I would like to record my sincere appreciation for the ready help and co-operation given at all times by the Medical Superintendent and Staff of the Hospital.

(iv) Smallpox.

A smallpox hospital of 28 beds at Upton Pyne administered by the Regional Hospital Board is available in case of need (Tel: No: Stoke Canon 207).

Should your Medical Officer of Health require the services of a consultant, arrangements have been made to call upon:-

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>T elephone</u>	
		<u>By Day</u>	<u>By Night</u>
Dr. C. Seward or	20, Southernhay West Exeter	Exeter 2110	Exeter 4120
Dr. W.J. Laird	City Hospital, Exeter	Exeter 2671 (Office)	Exeter 3116 (Home)

(b) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological and Serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, 7, Dix's Field, Exeter (Tel: No: Exeter 54959), under the direction of Dr. B. Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

(c) VENERAL DISEASE.

Under the present scheme free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre:-

<u>EXETER.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital	Mon. 3 - 5 p.m. Fri. 6 - 8 p.m.	Mon. 6 - 7 p.m. Fri. 3 - 5 p.m.

(d) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

As from 5th July, 1948, the local health authority became responsible for the ambulance services in the area, and at their request the Exmouth Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade agreed to act as their agents and continue the service commenced in 1936.

Three ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Station, Bastin Hall, Elm Grove, Exmouth (Tel: No: Exmouth 2857).

In the district served the ambulances have carried 1,521 patients, an increase of 220 on last year; 191 accident casualties an increase of 38; and covered 22,464 miles, an increase of 1,153.

PART III(e) CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

A Health Visitor is assigned to this district and has one trained nursing assistant working under her. Voluntary assistance is rendered at the various clinics by members of the B.R.C.S. and other helpers and such assistance is greatly appreciated.

The two Medical Officers who attend the Infant Welfare Centres are (a) Dr. Dawe of Budleigh Salterton, (b) Dr. L.G. Anderson your Medical Officer of Health.

The Centres are held at St. Clements, Exeter Road, Exmouth on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30.p.m. During 1952, the following attendances were made:-

Total No: of attendances of mothers	Total No: of babies attending	Total No: of Toddlers attending
2,797 (of which 171 cases were first attendances)	2,144 (of which 170 cases were first attendances)	1,230 (of which 36 cases were first attendances)

Welfare foods are supplied at the St. Clements Infant Welfare Centre on Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

(f) MATERNITY.

There are 5 District Nurse Midwives in this district viz:-

Nurse Snaith
Nurse Warne
Nurse Griffey
Nurse Newell
Nurse Burrington

who reside at No. 2. Albion Hill, Exmouth (Tel: No: Exmouth 2237). Each nurse is in possession of a motor car. All are fully trained in Gas and Oxygen analgesia and one apparatus is available for their use.

(g) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

When necessary, arrangements can be made for the admission of a premature baby and its mother to the nearest Maternity unit, in this case the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

(h) DENTAL CARE OF MOTHERS & YOUNG CHILDREN.

A well equipped dental surgery is provided at St. Clements, Exeter Road, at which dental treatment can be given to mothers and young children.

(i) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against Diphtheria should be given at the age of 8 months and consists of a course of two injections of A.P.T. given at one month's interval. The Protection thus provided should be maintained by means of a single reinforcing injection at 5 years of age, and a second single reinforcing injection at 10 years of age

The immunisation can be given by the patients own doctor, the Medical Officer attending the Infant Welfare Centres or by the Assistant Schools Medical Officers.

During 1952, 190 children received initial immunisation and 169 were given reinforcing injections.

13. WATER SUPPLY.(a) Source of Supply.

The town has two sources from which its water supply is obtained, namely:-

- (1) the catchment area at Squabmoor which feeds into an impounding reservoir, and
- (2) two boreholes at Dotton in the parish of Colaton Raleigh.

The re-organisation of the Dotton Pumping Station, virtually completed last year, with its electrically driven machinery has resulted in it being easier to cope with the demand for water but the bringing into effect of the complete scheme has been seriously delayed by the difficulty in obtaining delivery of certain special pipes required for the new reservoir at Capel Lane and also by the unfortunate necessity to make a diversion of the two 15" pipelines around Quentance Farm.

(b) QUALITY.

Water has been very satisfactory in quality during the year and of the 12 bacteriological samples taken all were satisfactory. The last analysis is as follows:-

- W.453. High Filters, Exmouth Reservoir.
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml - nil
- W.450. Lower Filters, Exmouth Reservoir.
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml = nil
- W.454. East Budleigh Reservoir.
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml = nil
- W.452. Bystock Reservoir.
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml = nil
- W.449 Borehole at Dotton.
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml = nil

(c) QUANTITY.

The demand during the summer season was again very high and there was little margin between the consumption and the quantity of water which could be delivered through the old mains between Knowle Hill and Capel Lane. This difficulty will not be resolved until the new two million gallons capacity service reservoir at Capel Lane can be used.

- (d) There are at present 5541 properties connected to the main supply and during 1952 172 connections were made.

14. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year the installation of the new electrically driven machinery at the Sheppards Row Pumping Station was completed and the plant brought into operation.

15. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

These were maintained to quite a high standard throughout the year and the new Conveniences provided on the Sea Front by the Lifeboat Station proved very satisfactory and the wash-up facilities at them were greatly appreciated by visitors.

16. PUBLIC CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse has continued to be disposed of by means of controlled tipping at the King George's Field. Consideration was again given to the question of the erection of a new Refuse Destructor and it was agreed that designs for this should be formulated and finalised so that an approval, in principle, might be obtained from the responsible Government Department with a view to this building being provided when the present areas available for tipping have been filled.

17. SWIMMING POOL.

The Swimming Pool has continued to be very popular both with residents and visitors.

18. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	<u>Number.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Premises visited, total number under sub-headings below	79	183
1. New Drains.....	-	-
2. Drains repaired.....	15	46
3. W.C's reconstructed or repaired...	8	22
4. House roofs repaired.....	5	13
5. House yard paving repaired.....	1	2
6. House walls and floors repaired...	6	13
7. Other house repairs.....	8	20
8. Ashbins provided.....	1	1
9. Nuisances abated.....	35	66
Miscellaneous (complaints, caravans, mosquitoes etc.,.....)		532
Number of informal notices served (general)...		45

(In addition to the above, visits were made to various premises as shown under the following different headings:-)

19. <u>DISINFECTION.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Disinfection of Bedding (lots)	6	
Disinfection of Premises	7	and 16 visits made.

20. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Houses (Council found to be infested).....	0
Number of Houses (Other than Council found to be infested).....	1
Number of Houses (Other than Council found to be infested disinfected).....	1

For the disinfection use was made of "Gammexane : D 034" and "Gammexane" Smoke Generators.

21. DYSENTERY.

In connection with a mild outbreak of dysentery during the early months of the year 385 visits were made for the purposes of enquiry and the collection of specimens.

22. CAMPING SITES.

The camping sites in the area licensed by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were well patronised and the maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time during the height of the season was 3,336 and 929 dwellings.

The number of visits and inspections in respect of the licensed camping sites was 71.

23. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.(a) Milk Supply.

The number of visits made to the 22 dairies in the district was 64. The inspections revealed that each dairy was kept up to a good standard of cleanliness. Particular attention was paid to the methods employed for the cleansing and sterilization of all utensils, bottles, etc., at each dairy and they were satisfactory.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.(i) Unsound Food.

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption consisted of:-

	<u>MEAT</u>			
	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Beef (Imported) (Bone Taint)	237			
Lamb (Bone Taint)	28½	2.	1.	13½

OTHER FOODS.

Turkey (Decomposed)	9½			
Rabbits (Decomposed)	39			
Lemon Soles (Decomposed)	140			
Crabs (Dead on arrival)	41			
Shrimps (Contaminated with Paint during transport).	43	2.	1.	20½

TINNED MEATS

Cooked ham ()	146½		
Cooked Pork (Contents decomposed)	30¼	
Jellied Veal (or)	93	
Luncheon Meat (Tins blown)	121¼	
			3.	2. 4

TINS OF FOOD (ASSORTED)No. of Tins.

836 (Tins punctured or blown)	1049	9.	1.	13
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Total of all Foods condemned	17.	2.	23
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During the year visits were paid to provision stores, meat shops, cooked meat shops, fish shops, fried fish shops, greengrocers, and fruit shops, and if any suggestion was made that would further the Clean Food Campaign the person having control of the shop would see that it was carried out.

The number of visits to these premises was 766.

(ii) Catering Establishments.

When visiting these establishments it was gratifying to see that the advice that had been given in previous visits had not been forgotten.

The persons in charge seemed most anxious that the staffs knew of the requirements that were needed in their particular trade to avoid any Food Poisoning Outbreak and a sharp look out was kept on the staff to see that the requirements were complied with.

I am pleased to report that the traders were always willing to co-operate, and if any reasonable request was made, it was attended to without delay.

The number of visits made to these places were 92.

(iii) Hotels & Guest Houses.

Visits were made to 28 of these premises and the kitchens inspected, where necessary, suggestions and advice were given to meet the requirements given in the report of the Catering Trades Working Party.

(c) Ice Cream.

During the year 51 samples of Ice Cream were taken from the manufacturers in the district for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory and the results were as follows

GRADE I	-	46	(90%)
GRADE II	-	4	(8%)
GRADE III	-	1	(2%)
GRADE IV	-	-	(-)

The results of the tests may be considered to be very satisfactory on the whole.

The sample which gave a Grade III result meant that something unusual had happened as samples taken from this producer mostly gave a Grade I result. When the producer was informed of the result he was surprised and very disappointed, he could not account for the failure of the sample.

A thorough examination of the premises was made, the utensils used were carefully examined to see if they were properly cleansed, and the methods of preparing the mix was checked, but no fault could be found which might have caused the trouble. Having been unable to find the cause so far, it was decided to dismantle the machinery and eventually a fault which might have caused the trouble was located, after this had been rectified the machinery was reassembled, a mix put through, and a sample was taken. The result of the sample was Grade 1, a very pleasing result to all concerned.

Below is given a tabulated statement of the results of samples since 1949 and gives a pleasing picture to notice the improvement that has taken place:-

GRADE	1949	1950	1951	1952
I	27 (42%)	30 (67%)	47 (82%)	46 (90%)
II	20 (31%)	10 (22%)	8 (14%)	4 (8%)
III	8 (13%)	5 (11%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)
IV	9 (14%)	-	1 (2%)	-

The producers showed willingness at all times to co-operate and were most anxious to produce ice cream which came up to standard. A copy of the report received from the Laboratory was sent to them so that they should know the result of each sample taken from their premises.

Visits were paid to premises where ice cream was retailed and they were all found to be satisfactory.

During the year 136 visits were made to premises where ice cream was manufactured or sold.

(d) Bakehouses.

The number of visits made to the bakehouses in the district during the year were 38. In a few cases where minor defects were noted, action of an informal nature was all that was required to put things right.

(e) Shellfish.

Visits were made to the Shellfish Factory at the docks. The care and attention given to the products and to the cleanliness of the premises was satisfactory.

To safeguard the public health samples of Cockles and Mussels are taken at the factory frequently and sent to the Laboratory at Exeter for Bacteriological examination.

The results of the tests were "Satisfactory".

BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938.

Up to the present it has not been found necessary to take any action in relation to the above byelaws as they are being complied with throughout the district.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

The traders throughout the district are showing a very keen interest in the matter of clean food, and spend a good deal of time observing the actions of the staffs. When anything was noticed that was undesirable, the member of the staff was told of it and again given a resume of what is required by everyone engaged in the food trade.

All the personnel are continually reminded that it is essential to wash their hands often, and particularly after making use of the W.C.

If traders will continue to take such an interest in the handling of food, by their staffs, it will do much to forward the Clean Food Campaign.

Dogs in Food Shops.

In order to further the interests of the Clean Food Campaign notices requesting people to keep dogs out of food shops were personally distributed to these shops and the object of the notice explained.

It is encouraging to see that the majority of these notices are being displayed.

24. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

General

During the year a steady flow of complaints were received relating to rats and mice. On investigation it was generally found that there was poultry kept at the premises or in the vicinity. All complaints were satisfactorily dealt with either by the occupier of the premises or the Council.

Sewer Rats.

The sewers in the district were again found to be free from rats. During the month of August tests were made. The recommended 10% of the total manholes were treated and 104 baits laid, as two consecutive "No Takes" were recorded on alternative days for each manhole baited, the sewer system was considered to be free from rats.

Council Property.

During the year four treatments were carried out at King George V Ground, Refuse Tip and the Depot. These properties, at the moment, appear to be free from infestation.

Withycombe Brook.

To keep the rats down in the Withycombe and Carter Avenue areas, the brook was given four treatments.

During the year, 120 visits were made regarding Rat and Mice infestations, and it is estimated that 200 rats and mice have been exterminated.

25. SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There were 66 premises inspected under the Shops Act, 1934, during the year and all were found to be satisfactory.

26. HOUSING.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing	
defects.....	34
Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	71
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all	
respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	23
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in	
consequence of informal action.....	23

NO STATUTORY ACTION WAS FOUND NECESSARY DURING THE YEAR.

The staff of this department were called upon to assist with the work of the Housing Department during the unfortunate illness of Mrs. Ellett, the Housing Officer.

FAC TORIES ACT, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect-ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	25	25	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	51	21	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total	84	46	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H .M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness					
Overcrowding					
Unreasonable temperature					
Inadequate ventilation					
Ineffective drainage of floors.					
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1		1	
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1		1	
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork	2	2		1	
Total	4	4		5	

28. HOUSING.

During the year a further 96 houses were completed on the Marpool Farm and Littleham Village Estates and a further three completed on the Salterton Road Housing Estate making a total of 99 new dwellings.

The following table is given for information:-

No. of people housed during the year.....	115
No. of houses still under requisition.....	54
No. of families accommodated in requisitioned properties.....	114
No. of persons interviewed by the Housing Department.....	2150
No. of visits and investigations by the Housing Department	275
No. of applications received during 1952.....	351

In January 1953 a further application form was sent to each person on the housing list in addition to each licensee in requisitioned property. In all 901 forms were sent out and 636 were completed and returned. Of those returned at that time all still desired to be housed in Exmouth. Local applicants considered to be in real need of housing was estimated to be 413 (as at 5th January, 1953.)

